

TRICARE® Vision Benefits

Coverage varies by beneficiary type, program option, and age

General vision coverage for TRICARE beneficiaries may include an eye examination and other specialized services to diagnose or treat a medical condition of the eye. These services are covered when provided in connection with the medical or surgical treatment of a covered illness or injury.

ROUTINE EYE EXAMINATIONS

Medically necessary eye-examination coverage varies according to beneficiary type, program option, and age. Referrals and prior authorizations may be required.

Active duty family members (ADFMs) are entitled to one annual routine eye examination. ADFMs covered by TRICARE

Prime may receive their annual routine eye examinations from any network providers without referrals or prior authorizations. ADFMs covered by TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra may receive their annual eye examinations from any TRICARE-authorized providers (*network or non-network*).

Routine eye examinations are **not** covered for TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra retirees or their family members, except for eye examinations allowed under the well-child benefit.

Note: Medically necessary eye examinations for diabetic patients of any age are not limited. One eye examination per year is recommended.

TRICARE Routine Eye-Examination Coverage for Beneficiaries over Age 6

Beneficiary Type	TRICARE Program Option	Routine Eye-Examination Coverage	Provider
Active Duty Service Members	TRICARE Prime	As needed to maintain fitness for duty	Military treatment facility, unless specifically referred to a civilian provider
	TRICARE Prime Remote (TPR)	As needed to maintain fitness for duty	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
Active Duty Family Members or TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Members	TRICARE Prime or TPR	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra or TRS	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Any TRICARE-authorized optometrist or ophthalmologist (network or non-network)
Retirees, Their Families, and Others	TRICARE Prime	One routine eye examination every two years (24 months)	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra, TRICARE Retired Reserve, or TRICARE For Life	None	Not applicable

This fact sheet is **not** all-inclusive. For additional information, please visit <u>www.tricare.mil.</u>

TRICARE Well-Child Vision Care Coverage

Beneficiary Type	TRICARE Program	Coverage	Provider
Infants (up to age 3)	All programs	One routine eye and vision screening at birth and at 6 months	Primary care manager or physician
Active Duty Family Members (ADFMs) or TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) Children (ages 3-6)	TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra or TRS	One routine eye examination per calendar year	Any TRICARE-authorized optometrist or ophthalmologist (network or non-network)
Non-ADFM Children (ages 3–6)	TRICARE Prime	One routine eye examination every two years (24 months)	Network optometrist or ophthalmologist
	TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra, TRICARE Retired Reserve, or TRICARE For Life	One routine eye examination every two years (24 months)	Any TRICARE-authorized optometrist or ophthalmologist (network or non-network)

LENSES AND EYEGLASSES

Except for active duty service members, lenses (*lenses implanted within the eye or contacts*) or eyeglasses are only cost-shared for the following conditions:

- Contact lenses for treatment of infantile glaucoma
- Corneal or scleral lenses for treatment of keratoconus
- Scleral lenses to retain moisture when normal tearing is not present or is inadequate
- Corneal or scleral lenses prescribed to reduce a corneal irregularity other than astigmatism
- Intraocular lenses, contact lenses, or eyeglasses to perform the function of the human lens, lost as the result of intraocular surgery or ocular injury or congenital absence

Benefits are also specifically limited to one set of intraocular lenses necessary to restore vision. A set may also include a combination of both intraocular lenses and eyeglasses when a combination is necessary to restore vision. If there is a prescription change related to the qualifying eye condition, a new set may be cost-shared. However, replacement lenses for those that are lost, have deteriorated, or have become unusable due to physical growth are not covered. Adjustments, cleaning, and repairs of eyeglasses are also not covered.

For more information about TRICARE vision benefits, contact your regional contractor, TRICARE Overseas Program Regional Call Center, or TRICARE Service Center. Special programs may exist at local military treatment facilities (MTFs). Please contact your local MTF for additional information.

FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE



1. For toll-free contact information, visit www.tricare-overseas.com.

An Important Note About TRICARE Program Information

At the time of publication, this information is current. It is important to remember that TRICARE policies and benefits are governed by public law and federal regulations. Changes to TRICARE programs are continually made as public law and/or federal regulations are amended. Military treatment facility guidelines and policies may be different than those outlined in this product. For the most recent information, contact your TRICARE regional contractor, TRICARE Service Center, or local military treatment facility.